



**WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT
OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
FINAL DETERMINATION OF
NON-SIGNIFICANCE
May 17, 2004**

State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N - Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Name of Proposal: METHOW RIVER BASIN FISH TRAP

Description of Proposal: The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) Supplementation Research Team proposes to use the site to seasonally install and operate a rotary style screw-trap to estimate the production of smolts from naturally spawning spring chinook and summer steelhead in the Methow River Basin. The trap would be installed in the early spring as weather and water conditions permit, and removed in late summer or early fall. We propose to attach a permanent cable to the top of the two unused bridge pilings existing at the site, and attach the screw-trap to the permanent cable via a separate cable that we would install and remove with the trap. We intend to use a crane to install and remove the trap at the beginning and end of each season. The crane would be parked above the high-water mark and the trap would be placed into the river in three main pieces (two pontoons and one cone) and floated into a position where the parts can be put together and the cable attached. When operating, the screw-trap would be floating in the middle of the wetted channel, and would collect smolts as they migrate through the site. We intend to operate a trap that has a debris deflector across the opening of the pontoons to prevent damage to the cone and to the trapped fish. In addition, our trap will have an enlarged livebox with a continually operating debris screen at the downstream end to remove debris from the livebox. We intend to insert Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags into a percentage of the smolts captured to estimate survival of tagged fish through downstream migration, and to the returning adult stage. To accomplish the PIT tagging, we intend to park a small trailer in close proximity to the trap site. The trailer will have been modified to allow for anesthetizing, PIT tagging, and recovery of juvenile salmonids prior to release. We will operate a portable, gas generator to provide power to the PIT tagging trailer for operation of water recirculation and oxygen pumps, and for the computer equipment necessary for PIT tagging operations

Proponent: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Methow Field Station, 24621 SR 97, Pateros Washington, 98846

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Opposite shore of the Methow River at the junction of McFarland Creek Rd and State Highway 153, Washington, Okanogan County; ¼ NorthEast Section 27, Township 31 North, Range 22 EastWM

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of the completed

environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date of issue below. Comments must be submitted by: **May 13, 2004**

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, Regulatory Services Section

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

Please contact: Teresa A. Eturaspe **Phone:** (360) 902-2575 **Fax:** (360) 902-2946 or
e-mail: habitatSEPA@dfw.wa.gov if you have questions or comments about this determination.

DATE OF ISSUE: April 29, 2004 **SIGNATURE:**



SEPA Log Number: 04-032. dns

Distribution of Environmental Document:

Department of Ecology, Environmental Review Section, Olympia
Department of Natural Resources, SEPA Center, Olympia
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Upper Columbia River Basin Field Office, Spokane
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle
NOAA-Fisheries, Seattle
Okanogan County Planning Department, Okanogan
Okanogan Board of Commissioners, Okanogan
Yakima Nation, Toppenish
Colville Confederated Tribes, Nespelem
WDFW, Habitat Program, Region 2, Ephrata
WDFW, Fish Program, Region 2, Ephrata
WDFW, Wildlife Program, Region 2, Ephrata